

**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT:**

This report pertains to an investigation of the identification of the burial location of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), seconded to the Royal Air Force, during the Great War 1914-1921.

**SUBMITTED TO:**

[CWGC Canadian Agency](#)

66 Slater Street

Suite 1707

Ottawa Ontario Canada K1A 0P4

Att: [Dominique Boulais](#)

**Report Date:** 13 February 2016

**Reason for Submission:** ("X" means purpose of the report)

<b>Casualty Identification:</b>		<b>Burial Information:</b>	
Confirmed Identity		Burial Location Identified	X
Most Probable Identity	X	Grave Stone Correction	
Questionable Identity		Grave Records Correction	X
Incorrect Identity		Request for CWGC Details	
Other		Other	

**Supporting Documents:** (# refers to attachment number; "I" information provided)

<b>Casualty Identification:</b>		<b>Burial Information:</b>	
Mackie, James Matthew	i	Ypres Reservoir Cemetery	<a href="#">link</a>
25 <sup>th</sup> Squadron, RAF	i	West-Vlaanderen, Belgium	i
Lieutenant	i	Plot 10 Row F Grave 40	i
Date of Death: 16-07-1918	<a href="#">link</a>	Date of Burial / Exhumation	i
Attestation Papers	<a href="#">link</a>	Cemetery Schematic	<a href="#">link</a>
Service Record	<a href="#">link</a>	Graves Registration Report	7
Circumstance of Death	1	Concentration of Grave	8
CEF Canada Register	2	Headstone Register	
Casualty Report	3	Casualty Spreadsheet	
Area Map(s)	4	Trench Map Exhumation	
Trench Map(s)	5	Grave Stone Photograph	
Possible Candidates List		Grave Stone Inscription	
Excluded Candidates List		Memorial Inscription/Photo	
CEF Register of Transfers	6	Reporting and Review	9

**Summary of Findings:**

The Graves Registration Report form for Ypres Reservoir Cemetery Plot 10 Row F Grave 40 lists an Unknown British Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James Mathew Mackie, a Canadian serving with the Royal Air Force, was an Observer in the aircraft piloted by Captain Eric Waterlow. The Captain's remains were recovered at the same location and time and reburied at Ypres Reservoir Cemetery in Plot 10 Row F Grave 38.

## Details of Findings:

The findings of the investigation of the location and recovery of the two sets of remains in Ypres Reservoir Cemetery are indicative that the remains of the Unknown British Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant are those of Canadian Observer James Matthew Mackie.

The findings are based on the following:

1. Lieutenant Mackie (*his rank as a Canadian as compared to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the RAF*) was reported missing and for official purposes presumed to have died on or since 16 July 1918 (Attachment #1).
2. The remains of Lieutenant Mackie were not knowingly recovered from the crash site, as were the remains of Captain Waterlow. As such, the name of Lieutenant Mackie was engraved on the Arras Flying Services Memorial (Attachment #2).
3. The Casualty Report for Lieutenant Mackie, as consolidated by British Airforce Researcher Trevor Harris, were examined. It was reported that he was flying as an Observer (Photographer) on a photographic mission to Tournai in a 2 seater DH4, Serial No. D8380 that left the 25 Squadron base at 1:20 pm. They got into a scrap with Sergeant Piechulck from the German unit Jagdstaffel 56 and were shot down near Pilckem at 2:40 pm. Lt. Mackie was killed and Captain Waterlow was listed as missing and later confirmed dead (Attachment #3).
4. The remains of Captain Waterlow were found north of Ypres Belgium east of Pilckem, designated as Sheet 28 Sector C.4, as depicted on the 1918 1:40,000 trench map for that area (Attachment #4).
5. Close examination of the trench map in the area designated as 28.C.4 shows that the remains of the pilot were located at the precise grid location of 28.C.4.b.25.35 (Attachment #5). The remains of the Unknown British Officer, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, were recovered nearby at 28.C.4.b.5.4. Based on the proximity of the remains; it is believed that they are the remains of Lieutenant Mackie.
6. Lieutenant Mackie attested to the 27<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force on October 26, 1914 and later transferred to the 25<sup>th</sup> Squadron, Royal Air Force on 6 July 1918 (Attachment #6). He was lost in action only 10 days later on 16 July 1918.
7. The Graves Registration Report Form (GRRF) for Plot 10 of Ypres Reservoir Cemetery shows that the remains in Row F Grave 38 were previously listed as an Unknown British Officer with a Military Cross. These remains were subsequently identified as those of Captain Eric Waterlow, 25<sup>th</sup> Squadron Royal Air Force. The remains in Row F Grave 40 are still listed as an Unknown British Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant (Attachment #7).
8. The Concentration of Graves (Exhumation and Reburial) Burial Return (COG-BR) for Plot 10 of Ypres Reservoir Cemetery identifies the location where the two sets of remains were found as 28.C.4.b.25.35 and 28.C.4.b.5.4 respectively (Attachment #8).

The location of the two sets of trench map coordinates identified on the COG-BR was previously noted on the period trench map, depicting the close proximity of the remains. There were no other remains from this area on the COG-BR documents for the Ypres Reservoir Cemetery, other than on this page (Graves 36, 37, 38 and 40). The two Officers were identified in Graves 38 and 40.

**Action Required:**

The “Investigative Report” has been prepared in accordance with the procedures and criteria set out by the CWGC, should they wish to make any changes to the commemoration details (Attachment #9).

The close proximity of the two sets of remains, relative to the crash site of the DH.4 aircraft, offers compelling evidence that the two sets of remains are those of the Pilot and Observer of the aircraft lost on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 1918. In this case we have classified the remains as “*Believed to Be*” those of RAF 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James Matthew Mackie. As a Canadian, thus no 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Rank, he is listed as a Lieutenant on the Arras Flying Services Memorial.

# ATTACHMENT #1

1. NO.	2. RANK OR RATING	3. SURNAME	4. CHRISTIAN NAMES
	Lieutenant	MACKIE	James Matthew
5. UNIT OR SHIP	6. DATE OF CASUALTY	7. H.Q. FILE NO.	8. RELIGION
Manitoba Regimental Depot, Seconded Royal Air Force	On or since 16-7-18	649-M-6633	Not stated
9. CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASUALTY		10. NAME, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN	
"Previously reported Missing, now for official purposes presumed to have died"			
11. LOCATION OF UNIT AT TIME OF CASUALTY			
NOTE.—Items 12, 13 and 14 are not to be completed until grave is permanently located.			
12. CEMETERY	13. LOCATION OF CEMETERY	14. GRAVE LOCATION	15. REGISTERED NO. OF GRAVE
		Grave..... Plot..... Row.....	
16. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TAKEN	17. EXPOSURE NO.	18. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND CEMETERY SUPPLIED TO	
19. FURTHER PARTICULARS ON REVERSE SIDE OF SHEET.			

M. F. W. 2048  
11. Q. 1772-33-1408  
12. F. 1772-33-1408

NJ

# ATTACHMENT #2

Form E. 11  
1932 (Rev. 1991) D 48

Reg. No. Rank **Lieut.** Name **MACKIE, J.M.** File No. R.L. **28911**

Unit **V.B.D. 889 P.A.F.**

Date of Casualty **16-7-18.** Nature and Place of Casualty **Previously reported MISSING now for Official purposes presumed to have DIED on or since.** Next-of-Kin

Published on D.C.L. No. **1254.** Date **2-4-19.**

Unconfirmed Burial Report	Grave No.	Authority	Report of Circumstances of Casualty	
<p>Confirmed Burial Report</p> <p>Revised Burial Report</p>			Received from Unit	Forwarded
			Date	Ottawa
			Written For	A.A.G. Written
			Date	Date
	Grave No.	Authority	Burial Report Advised to Ottawa and Next-of-Kin	
			Ottawa	Next-of-Kin
	Grave No.	Authority	Revised Report Advised to Ottawa and Next-of-Kin	
			Ottawa	Next-of-Kin

**RECEIVED MEM. ARRAS**



## ATTACHMENT #3

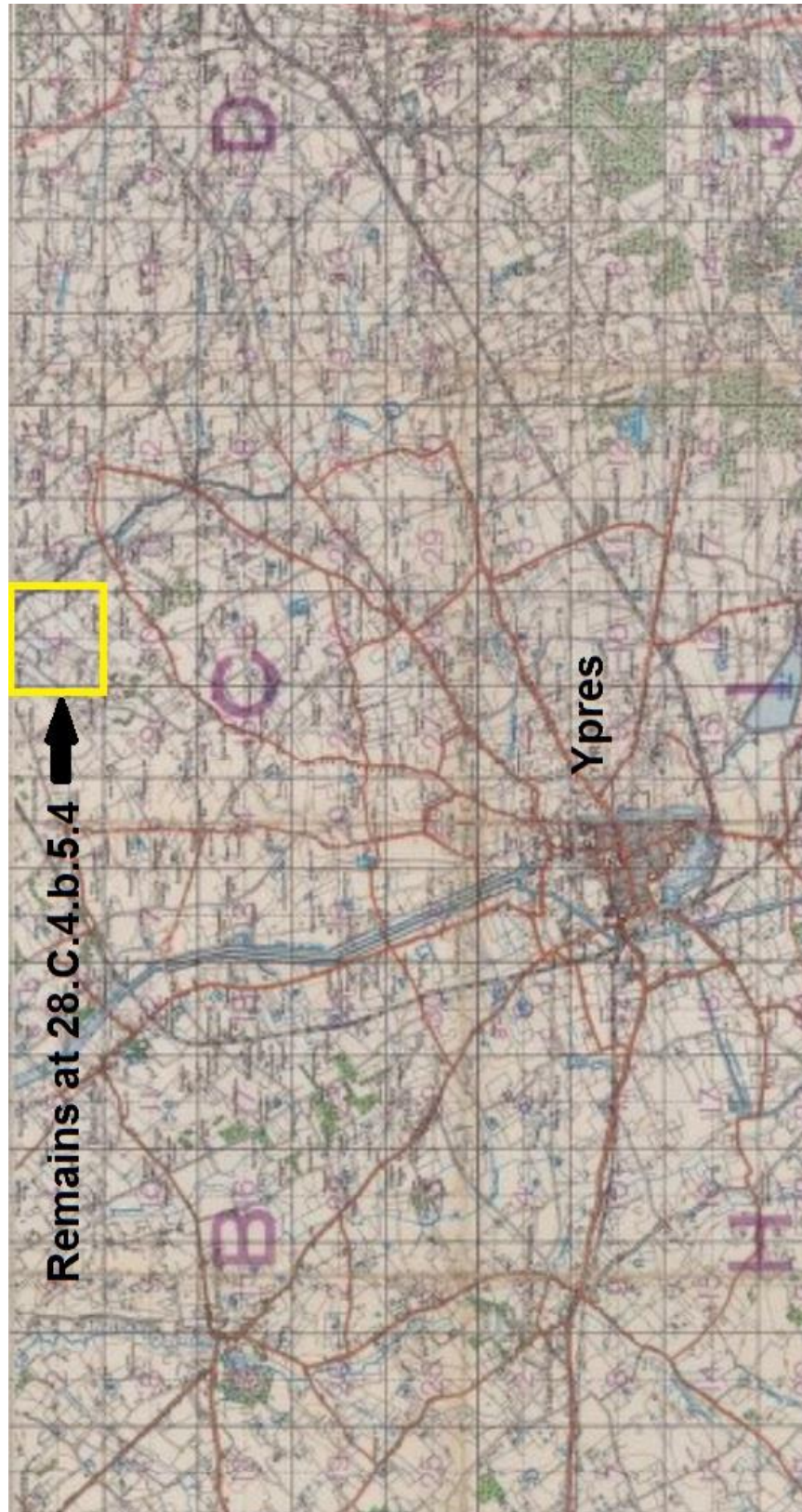
**D8380      DH4      25 Sqn**  
**\*\*Phot TOURNAI MIA (Capt E Waterlow**  
**MC DFC KIA/Lt JM Mackie Can. DCM MM**  
**KIA) left 1-20pm [?poss 'DH4' claim combat**  
**PILCKEM 2-40pm Vfw F Piechulek Ja56] Δ**

*That means he was flying as an Observer (Photographer) on a photographic mission to Tournai in a 2 seater DH4, Serial No. D8380 that left the 25 Squadron base at 1:20 pm. They got into a scrap with Sergeant Piechulck from the German unit Jagdstaffel 56 and were shot down near Pilckem at 2:40 pm. Lt. Mackie was killed and Cpt. Waterlow was listed as missing and later confirmed dead.*

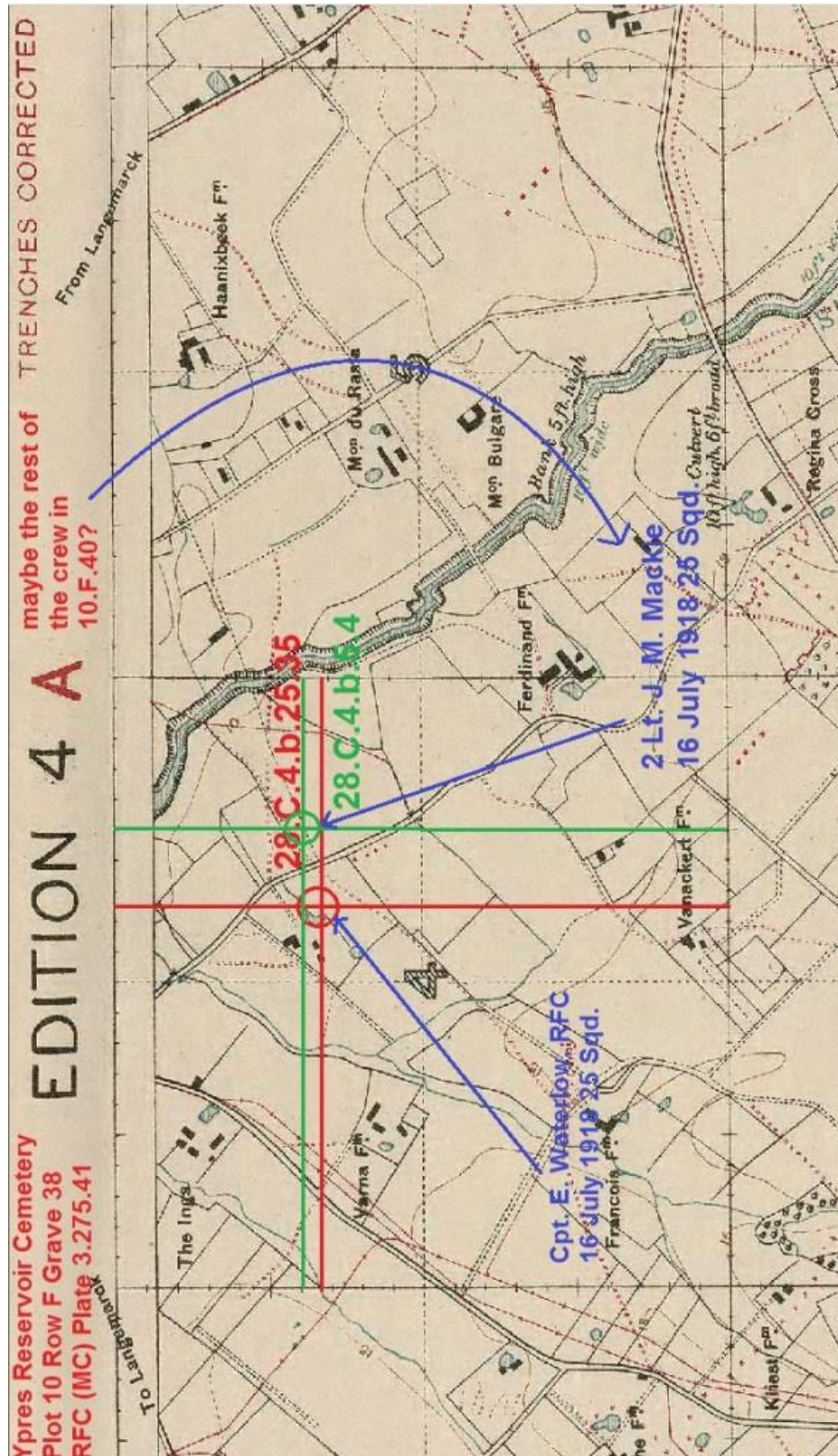
Source:

Harris, Trevor. 2014. The Sky Their Battlefield II. Fetubi Books, Hertfordshire, England.

## ATTACHMENT #4









# ATTACHMENT #6

Christian Names (in full) *James Matthew Mackie*

Date of Birth *8<sup>th</sup> April 1893* Permanent Home Address *777 Winnipeg Ave Winnipeg, Man, Canada*

Name of Person to be *James Matthew Mackie* Relationship *Mother*

Informal of Casualties *1st Lt Man Regt 659*

Date Sheet Started *27.4.18* Registered Papers No. *P227970*

MOVEMENTS				MOVEMENTS (continued)			
Outgoing Authority	Unit from which	Unit to which	Date of Effect	Special Remarks re Duties	Incoming Authority Confirming	Outgoing Authority	Unit from which
<i>RO 6.4.18</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>5.4.18</i>	<i>1 m this course</i>			
<i>RO 9.4.18</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>1 m old Hqs</i>	<i>6.4.18</i>				
<i>RO 7.5.18</i>	<i>Hq Hqs</i>	<i>1 " " Hqs</i>	<i>4.5.18</i>				
<i>9th 7.18</i>	<i>Overseas</i>	<i>Overseas</i>	<i>27.6.18</i>				
<i>"</i>	<i>Overseas</i>	<i>9 Wing of S.</i>	<i>5.7.18</i>				
<i>on Rtn 7.17.18</i>	<i>9 Wing</i>	<i>25 Sqn</i>	<i>6.7.18</i>				
	<i>25 Sqn</i>	<i>Missing</i>	<i>16.7.18</i>				

APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS			
Date of Lond. Gaz.	Rank *	Description	Graded as
<i>16.7.18</i>	<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>O. Off.</i>	
<i>9.11.18</i>	<i>1st Lt</i>	<i>1st Lt with RA7</i>	

\* W.S.E. = Whilst so Employed  
Temp. = Temporary  
Act = Acting

Date of Effect *9.5.18*  
*12.3.18*



# ATTACHMENT #7

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT Army Form W. 3372.

## GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

No. 1. AREA. I. W. G. C. REPORT No. 1 SCHEDULE No. 214/C  
12-1-22

COMMUNE YPRES  
PLACE OF BURIAL YPRES RESERVOIR NORTH CEMETERY

Map Reference 28.1.7.b.1.1.

The following are buried here:— ALL CONCENTRATIONS

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
		PLOT (10) ROW : F: Cont				
.....						
HANTS REGT		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER			ALL	31 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER			CROSSES	32 ✓
YORKS REGT		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER			ERECTED	33 ✓
N. Z. R.		UNKNOWN NEWZEALAND SOLDIER				34 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER				35 ✓
SEAFORTHES		<del>U.B.S. FRANKIE B.</del>			EFX/10092	36 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER				37 ✓
25 <sup>th</sup> Sept. R.F.C.		<del>Capt. E. WATERLOW.</del>		16.7.18	EFX/10093	38 ✓
		(M.C.)				
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER				39 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH 2. LIEUT.				40 ✓

ENTRÉES 11 1/2  
CLIPS CHECKED 25.5.22

(6 31 5) W1163—P133 45,000 10/17 HWV(P117) Forms/W3372/2  
144—1908 70,000 4/18



16.  
Certified all  
Crosses erected. B/68.

YPRES 1.69/E.

CONCENTRATION OF GRAVES (Exhumation and Re-burials).

BURIAL RETURN. BELGIUM. SHEET 28.1.7.b.1.4.

Name of Cemetery of Re-burial YPRES RESERVOIR (NORTH) CEMETERY. 1.6.21.

Plot Row	Grave	Map Reference where body found.	Was Cross on Grave?	Regimental particulars.	Means of Identification.	Were any effects forwarded to Base?
10	F 33	Sheet 20. U.28.d.0.1.	No.	U.B.S. Yorks.Reg.	Numeral.	Nil.
10	F 34	Sheet 28. J.2.d.80.60.	"	U. NZ.S. N.Z.R.	Numeral.	"
10	F 35	Sheet 36. N.10.d.30.80.	"	U.B.S. (Small remains).	Clothing.	"
10	F 36	Sheet 28. C.4.b.5.4.	"	B-FRANKS. Seaforth's. U.B.S. (Name on Watch).	Watch and Numerals. Clothing.	Watch.
10	F 37	C.4.d.4.7.	"	U.B.S.	Plate, Ribbon, Collar Badge.	Nil.
10	F 38	C.4.b.25.35.	"	U.B.Off. R.F.C.(MC). No.on.Plate 3.275.41.	Clothing.	Plate.
10	F 39	Sheet 20. U.28.b.75.35.	"	U.B.S.	Star & Clothing.	Nil.
10	F 40	Sheet 28. C.4.b.5.4.	"	U.B.Off. 2nd Lieut.	"	"
10	F 41	Sheet 20. U.28.b.75.35.	"	U.B.S. No.8886 on Beet. R.4322.	Clothing.	"
10	F 42	Sheet 28. J.25.b.15.65.	"	U.B.Off. Leinster Regt. Initials W.S. on Box.	Button, Clothing and Box.	Box.
10	F 43	J.25.b.15.65.	"	5342 T.H.WITT (DCM) 2nd Lt. Leinsters.	Disc and Ribbon.	Disc.
10	F 44	J.19.b.70.70.	"	U.B.S. R.B.	Buttons.	Nil.
10	D 1	J.19.b.70.70.	"	266940 W.A.SENDEN, N.F. 20.9.17	Disc. E.F.F. 10096	Disc.
10	D 2	J.19.b.70.70.	"	U.B.S. N.F.	Numeral.	Nil.
10	D 3	J.19.b.70.70.	"	266604 T.WATTELAND, N.F. 20.9.17	Disc. E.F.F. 10099	Disc.



## **ATTACHMENT #9**

This “*Reporting and Review*” attachment is provided to assist all parties in the submission of an investigative report related to the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) receives a copy of this report in the event they wish to make changes to the commemoration details. In order to alter the records, the CWGC has set out their criteria for the procedure and submission of cases for review, as detailed below. The CWGC is under no obligation to make changes based on a report.

<b>Procedure:</b>	<b>Guideline Criteria for Submission:</b>
All new identification cases need to be assessed in the first instance by the Canadian Agency (CA) and submissions should go to their office directly. After an initial assessment, if the Agency feels that the case is compelling, they will then pass all the documentation to the Commemorations Team at the Commission's Head Office. Head Office will then review the case and inform the CA of their findings. The Canadian authorities will then decide whether or not any changes to the arrangements for commemoration are required and inform the Commission accordingly.	Cases need to present clear and convincing evidence to prove the identity of a casualty and must not be based on assumption or speculation. The Commission's Commemoration Team will also consider whether the findings of a better informed contemporary investigation are being revisited and if there is any new evidence to consider. By way of example, it is unlikely that the Commission would support a revision of the arrangements for the commemoration where it is apparent that no new evidence is being presented and, a better informed previous decision is being revisited some 100 years later.

The following have participated in the preparation, review and submission of this report on a voluntary basis. Those noted below have read the investigative report and compared it to the criteria set out by the CWGC, as a guiding principle, and have agreed to have their name included as part of the review team. The CWGC may contact any of the reviewers at the e-mail address provided below.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
Richard Laughton	Private Researcher LMC Great War Research Company	<a href="mailto:rlaughton@laughton.ca">rlaughton@laughton.ca</a>	Report Author